

Application No. 09/622,583

Reply to Office Action of February 27, 2003

IN THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Listing of the Claims

Claim 1 (Cancelled).

2. (Currently Amended) A method for establishing the HLA-G expression profile of a solid tumour with a view to selecting a treatment which is suited to said tumour or with a view to monitoring the evolution of said tumour, comprising:

- (i) removing a tumour sample,
- (ii) preparing a histological section from said tumour sample,
- (iii) labeling the uncultured tumour cells of the tumour sample obtained in (ii) with antibodies specific for HLA-G membrane-bound and soluble isoforms, and
- (iv) establishing the HLA-G expression profile of said tumour sample by detecting the labelled tumour cells.

3. (Currently Amended) A method for establishing the HLA-G expression profile of a solid tumour with a view to selecting a treatment which is suited to said tumour or with a view to monitoring the evolution of said tumour, comprising:

- (i) removing a tumour sample,
- (ii) lysing the uncultured tumour cells,
- (iii) contacting the uncultured lysed tumour cells with various antibodies directed against the class I HLA antigens so as to form HLA-G isoform/antibody complexes, and
- (iv) establishing the HLA-G expression profile of said tumour sample by detecting the complexes formed in step (iii).

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Claims 4-15 (Cancelled).

16. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein the antibodies specific for HLA-G membrane-bound and soluble isoforms are monoclonal antibodies.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein the HLA-G membrane-bound isoforms are HLA-G1, HLA-G2, HLA-G3 and HLA-G4.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 2, wherein the HLA-G soluble isoforms are HLA-G5 and HLA-G6.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 3, wherein subsequent to the contacting in (iii) the cells are immunoprecipitated.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 3, wherein the detecting in (iv) comprises electrophoresis and transfer to a membrane.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 3, wherein the antibodies specific for HLA-G membrane-bound and soluble isoforms are monoclonal antibodies.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 3, wherein the HLA-G membrane-bound isoforms are HLA-G1, HLA-G2, HLA-G3 and HLA-G4.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 3, wherein the HLA-G soluble isoforms are HLA-G5 and HLA-G6.

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24. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 3, wherein the uncultured tumour cells are labeled prior to lysing the tumour cells in (ii).